

# South Dakota AUGUST CROP REPORT

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News Release

August 11, 2000

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## ***CORN PRODUCTION UP, SOYBEAN DOWN***

**SIoux FALLS, August 11, 2000** – South Dakota corn and spring wheat production are up from last year while soybean, winter wheat and hay are down, according to the August 1 forecasts by USDA's South Dakota Ag Statistics Service. The South Dakota August 1 corn yield is down from last year but total corn production is up. Forecasted yields per acre for soybeans and wheat are also down from a year ago.

**Corn** production is forecast at 395.0 million bushels, up 8 percent from last year, but still 8 percent below the 1998 record output. Yield is forecast at 100 bushels per acre, down 13 bushels from last year, and compares to the 1998 record high of 121. Acres to be harvested for grain, at 3.95 million, are up 22 percent from last year.

**Soybean** production is forecast at 140.25 million bushels, down 4 percent from last year, the first decrease since 1995. Yield, at 33 bushels per acre, is 3 bushels below last year. The record was 39 in 1998. Acres for harvest, at 4.25 million, are up 4 percent from last year's record.

**Winter wheat** production, at 56.32 million bushels, is down 5 percent from last year. The yield, at 44 bushels, is unchanged from last month's forecast but down 3 bushels from last year's record yield. Harvested acres, at 1.28 million, are up 2 percent from last year.

**Other spring wheat** production is forecast at 61.2 million bushels, up 9 percent from the July 1 forecast and 2 percent above last year. Yield, at 36 bushels per acre, is 3 bushels above last month and 1 above last year. The record yield is 37, set in 1996. Harvested acres, at 1.70 million, are down 1 percent from last year.

**Sorghum** production is forecast at 4.9 million bushels, up 6 percent from 1999. Yield, at 49 bushels per acre, is 9 bushels below last year. Grain sorghum harvested acres, at 100,000, are up 25 percent from last year.

**Oat** production, at 14.4 million bushels, is unchanged from the July forecast, but up 13 percent over last year. The forecasted yield, at 60.0 bushels, is down 4 bushels from last year. Acres harvested for grain are forecasted at 240,000.

**Barley** production is forecast at 5.36 million bushels, unchanged from last month, but up 51 percent over last year. Harvested acres, at 105,000 and up 42 percent from 1999, are mainly responsible for the large change. Yield is forecast at 51.0 bushels per acre, up 3 bushels from last year.

**All hay** production is forecast at 71.5 million tons, down 24 percent from last year mainly due to sharply lower yields. Yield, is forecast at 1.74 tons per acre compared to last year's record 2.36 tons. Alfalfa production, at 5.20 million tons, is down 23 percent from last year's record and has a forecasted yield of 2.0 tons per acre. Alfalfa harvested acreage, at 2.60 million, is up 8 percent from 1999. Other hay production, at 1.95 million tons, is down 28 percent from last year and has a forecasted yield of 1.30 tons per acre. Other hay harvested acreage, at 1.50 million, is down 6 percent.

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